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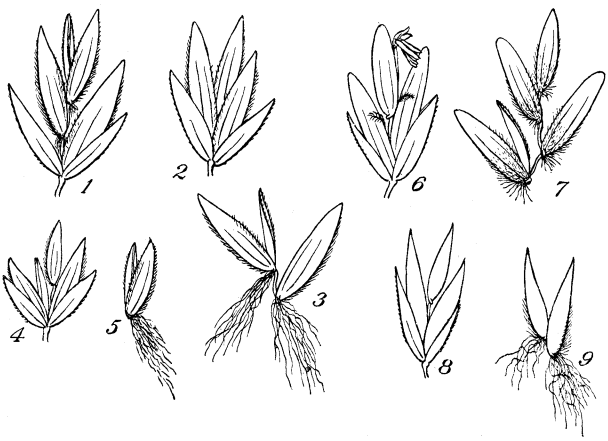
Three new or noteworthy Grasses.

BY F. LAMSON-SCRIBNER.

Some ten or twelve years ago Mr. J. Wolf collected in Illinois a *Poa* which was thought to be only a form of *Poa alsodes* by Dr. A. Gray and a variety of *P. flexuosa* Muhl. by Dr. Vasey. Specimens thus ticketed by Dr. Vasey are in my herbarium and in the herbarium the University of Tennessee, and similar specimens collected by Wolf which are ticketed in Dr. Vasey's hand writing, "*Poa alsodes* var. *Wolfii.*" In working up the *Poas* for "The Grasses of Tennessee" I find that Dr. Gattinger collected the grass in question several times within the State. The first specimens are marked "Lavergne, May, 1882," the last "Cedar glades, Lavergne, 1890." Finding these specimens among our Tennessee plants led to a close examination of the characters of the grass with the result that it appears to the writer to be quite distinct and readily separable from either *P. flexuosa* Muhl. or *P. alsodes* Gray.



FIGS. 1–5. Spikelets of *Poa Wolfii* Scribn.
FIGS. 6, 7. Spikelets of *Poa flexuosa* Muhl.
FIGS. 8, 9. Spikelets of *Poa alsodes* A. Gray.

The species is thus characterized: A slender perennial, 1–3 feet high with a loose nodding panicle. Leaves 1–2 lines wide, 3–6 inches long; sheaths rather loose, mostly shorter than the internodes, the lower scarious; ligule ½ lines long; panicle slender, lax, 3–6 inches long, primary branches 2–3 rarely more at each node of the main rhachis; spikelets ovate, 2–3 lines long, 3–5-flowered; rachilla often flexous; empty glumes sub-equal, 3-nerved; flowering glumes strongly carinate, lanceolate, 5-nerved, silky-villous along the margins and keel and with a copious, long web at the base.—Ill., Tenn., Kansas.

FESTUCA SHORTII Kunth; Wood, Class Book, 794 (1863).

Allied to *F. nutans* Willd. Spikelets 3–4-flowered, ovate, broader above, 2–3 lines long, usually much exceeding the pedicels in length. Empty glumes lanceolate, acute, slightly unequal, the first 1-nerved, 1¾ lines long, the second 3-nerved, 2 lines long, nerves scabrous; flowering glume ovate-oblong, obtuse, obscurely 5-nerved, smooth or minutely roughened on the keel near the apex, more or less rounded on the back. Palea broad, strongly 2-keeled, about equalling the glume. Grain obovate, pubescent at apex, lodicules smooth. Panicle shorter than in *F. nutans*, 4–8 inches long, the broader spikelets more crowded at the extremities of the ascending branches. In the mature specimens the spikelets are turgid and the florets have the appearance of being oblong and very obtuse.

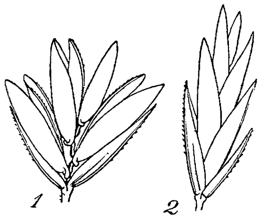


FIG. 1. Spikelet of *Festuca Shortii*.
FIG. 2. Spikelet of *Festuca nutans*.

Kunth is cited by Dr. Wood as the author of *F. Shortii*, but I do not find this name in any of Kunth's writings. Probably it is an herbarium name. An examination of Wood's herbarium or the herbarium of Dr. Short, which is at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, may serve to settle this point. In later writings Wood reduced the species to a variety of *F. nutans*. In his "Flora Atlantica" (1879), he calls it *F. nutans* var. *palustris* (p. 399). It is, I think, a good species, readily distinguished from *F. nutans* by its less elongated panicle, more crowded and much broader spikelets.

UNIOLA LONGIFOLIA Scribn. n. sp.

Lower culm-leaves a foot long or more, 3–5 lines wide; sheaths elongated, concealing the nodes, somewhat compressed and more or less villous with a dense ring of soft short hairs at the summit. Inflorescence as in *U. laxa* (*U. gracilis*), but with the main axis and branches stouter and more rigid, and the spikelets somewhat larger.

Little Stone Mountain, DeKalb county, Georgia, July (John K. Small); Florida (Curtiss N. Am. Pl., No. 3521); Mississippi (S. M. Tracy); Hiawassee Valley, Tenn. (A. Ruth); Tullahoma, Middle Tenn. (A. Gattinger).

Death of Dr. Thomas Morong.

Dr. Thomas Morong, Curator of the Herbarium of Columbia College, and a Vice President of the Club, died at his son's home in Boston, Mass., April 26th, 1894, after an illness of some four months. An account of his life and botanical works will appear in the June number of the BULLETIN.

Botanical Notes.

A New Systematic Botany of North America is announced under the editorship of George F. Atkinson, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.; Nathaniel L.Britton, Columbia College, New York City; John M. Coulter, Lake Forest University, Lake Forest, Ill.; Frederick V. Coville, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; Edward L. Greene, University of California, Berkeley, Cal.; Byron D. Halsted, Rutgers College, New Brunswick, N. J.; Arthur Hollick, Columbia College, New York City, and Lucien M. Underwood, De Pauw University, Greencastle, Ind. The editors are already assured of the coöperation of over forty American botanists.

The general sequence of orders will be based on that adopted by Professors Engler and Prantl in their "Natürliche Pflanzenfamilien," now approaching completion, and the work will be